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|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                               | 09/812,146             | BHATIA, JAGJEET     |  |
|                               | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                               | Phirin Sam             | 2661                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/31/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 33-43.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
|--|---|



**PHIRIN SAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Examiner's Amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appear below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

**Regarding claim 39**, line 12, please delete "the outbound packet;" and insert ---the outbound packet.---

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

**Regarding claims 33-38 and 43**, prior arts do not disclose a method for VLAN packet classification, comprising a combination of:  
determining the classification mode type:

if the determination is made that the classification mode type is a first classification mode, determining if the VLAN m is valid and if the VLAN ID is valid, transmitting the packet to a switching controller, and  
classifying the packet to a VLAN associated with the VLAN with the port;

if the determination is made that the classification mode type is a second classification mode, transmitting the packet to the switching controller, receiving a VLAN ID associated with the port, classifying the packet to a VLAN associated with the VLAN ID associated with the port;  
and

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if the determination is made that the classification mode type is a third classification mode, retrieving a protocol type associated with the packet, and determining if the protocol type is supported, and if the determination is made that the protocol type is supported transmitting the packet to the switching controller, classifying the packet to a VLAN based on the protocol VLAN ID.

**Regarding claims 39-42**, the prior arts do not disclose a method for VLAN packet classification, comprising a combination of:  
determining the tagging mode type:

if the determination is made that the tagging mode type is a first tagging mode type, retaining the VLAN ID as received in the packet;

if the determination is made that the tagging mode type is a second tagging mode type, retrieving the VLAN ID from the outbound packet, replacing VLAN ID in the outbound packet with a VLAN m to which the packet is classified; and

if the determination is made that the mode type is a third tagging mode type, retrieving and removing the VLAN ID from the outbound packet.

### ***Conclusion***

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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(1) US Patent 6,181,699 (Crinion et al) discloses an apparatus for and method of assigning a VLAN tag to a frame received at a port of a switch.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phirin Sam whose telephone number is (571) 272-3082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau T. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272 - 3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273 - 8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 2, 2005



PHIRIN SAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER